

About Those Electronic Book Readers

Lorrin R. Garson

April 17, 2010

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute – Computer Club
&
Washington Area Computer User Group

Outline

- Publishing and e-books
- Sources of information for e-books
- E-book competition 2007-2010
- Alternative electronic delivery to e-books
- E-book readers
 - Amazon Kindles
 - Barnes & Noble Nook
 - Sony Readers
 - Apple iPad
- General observations

Publishing and E-Books

- The major stakeholders in e-book readers
 - Publishers
 - ✓ trade
 - ✓ STM
 - ✓ textbooks
 - ✓ university
 - ✓ vanity
 - Authors
 - Book stores and other providers
 - Equipment manufacturers
 - Customers: individuals, corporations & libraries

Publishing and E-Books (cont.)

- Economics of publishing
 - Publishers' fixed costs
 - First copy costs
 - PP&D (paper, printing and distribution)
 - Marketing
- Publishers & authors must make money to participate
- Consumers pay directly or indirectly
- E-books primarily in trade publishing















From Whence Comes Material for E-Books?

- Word processors (authors)
- Composition systems
 - editing
 - page make-up
 - imposition
 - printing plates
- Databases
- Output to appropriate digital formats (PDF, HTML, AZW (Kindle), PDB (B&N Nook), LRX & LRF (Sony), JPEG, GIF, etc.

E-Book File Formats









From Wikipedia, see 

[Click on the "i" to link to the Web](#)

\ Format Reader \ 	Plain text 	PDF 	ePub 	HTML 	Mobi-Pocket 	Fiction-Book 	DjVu 	Broadband eBook ¹ 	eReader ¹ 	Kindle ¹ 	WOLF ¹ 	Tome Raider ¹ 	Open eBook ² 
Amazon Kindle 2, DX	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Apple iPad	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Azbooka WISEreader	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Barnes & Noble Nook	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Bookeen Cybook Gen3, Opus	Yes	Yes	Yes ³	Yes	Yes ³	Yes ⁴	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
COOL-ER Classic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hanlin e-Reader V3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
Hanvon WISEreader	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
iRex iLiad	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Iriver Story	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Nokia N900	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
NUUTbook 2	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
OLPC XO, Sugar	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Onyx Boox 60	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Pocketbook 301 Plus, 302, 360°	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Sony Reader	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Viewsonic VEB612	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

¹ Proprietary format - ² Predecessor of ePUB - ³ Versions support either ePUB or MobiPocket - ⁴ Only ePUB version and with FW 2.0+

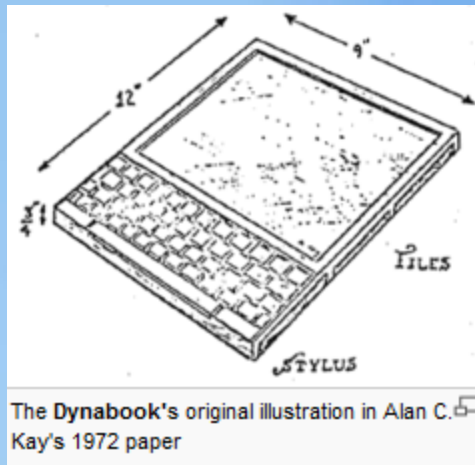
Characteristics of E-Book File Formats

Format 	Filename extension 	DRM support 	Image support 	Word wrap support 	Open standard 	Embedded annotation support 	Book- marking 
Plain text	.txt	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
HTML	.html	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
PostScript	.ps	No	Yes	No	Yes	?	?
Portable Document Format	.pdf	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
DjVu	.djvu	?	Yes	No	Yes	?	?
EPUB (IDPF)	.epub	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
FictionBook	.fb2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	?
Mobipocket	.prc, .mobi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kindle	.azw	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
eReader	.pdb	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Broadband eBook	.lrf, .lrx	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	?	?
WOLF	.wol	Yes	Yes	No	No	?	?
Tome Raider	.tr2, .tr3	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	?	?
ArghosReader	.aeh	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	?	Yes
Microsoft Reader	.lit	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	?	Yes

From Wikipedia see 

E-Book Development

- Gutenberg Project 1971
- Dynabook – Alan Kay 1968, see [i](#)



- Dynabook 1970's*

* From PARC (**P**alo **A**lto **R**esearch **C**enter); formerly Xerox PARC

Competition in 2007










- Amazon Kindle*
- Sony Reader
- Seiko e-ink E-Book Reader
- Bookeen Cybook V3
- LG Philips Flexible eBook
- Fujitsu eBook (demo)

*Amazon started to sell physical books on the Internet in 1995.

Competition in 2009

- Amazon Kindle
- Sony PRS-700 Reader
- Foxit eSlick Reader
- Irex Digital Reader 1000S
- Plastic Logic Reader (partners only)





Competition in 2010

1. Amazon Kindle 
2. Barnes & Noble Nook 
3. Sony Readers 
4. Apple iPads 
5. Plastic Logic Que (two models) 
6. Interead Cool-RD 
7. ECTACP jetBook 
8. IREX Digital Readers 
9. Samsung Papyrus 

Competition in 2010 (cont.)






- 10. Bebook ⓘ
- 11. RCA REB 1100 ⓘ
- 12. Foxit eSlick ⓘ
- 13. Onyx Boox 60 ⓘ
- 14. Asus DR-900 ⓘ
- 15. Bookeen Cybook OPUS ⓘ
- 16. Astak 6 EZ Reader ⓘ
- 17. Iliad ⓘ
- 18. Fujitsu FLEPia ⓘ
- 19. enTourage eDGe ⓘ

Alternatives to E-Book Readers

1. Project Gutenberg (1971) 
 - 30,000 free books
 - For PC, iPhone, Kindle, Sony Reader, etc.
2. Google Books 
 - Controversial—conflicts with publishers & governments
 - 10 million books—1 million in public domain
 - Provides links to purchase books
3. Disney Digital Books 
 - ~500 books
 - \$79.95/yr or \$8.95/mo
4. For additional information on e-books see Wikipedia... 

Other Electronic Delivery

1. STM journals

- American Chemical Society 
- American Institute of Physics 
- Elsevier Science Direct 
- IEEE CS Digital Library 
- J. Am. Med. Assoc. 





2. Magazines

- *Time* 
- *The Economist* 

3. Newspaper Web sites

- *New York Times* 
- *Washington Post* 

Other Electronic Delivery (cont.)

4. Textbooks 
 - Thousands available
 - Priced somewhat lower than print books
 - Adoption slow by publishers and students
5. Library of Congress Digital Collections 
6. National Library of Medicine (PubMed) 
7. California Digital Library 

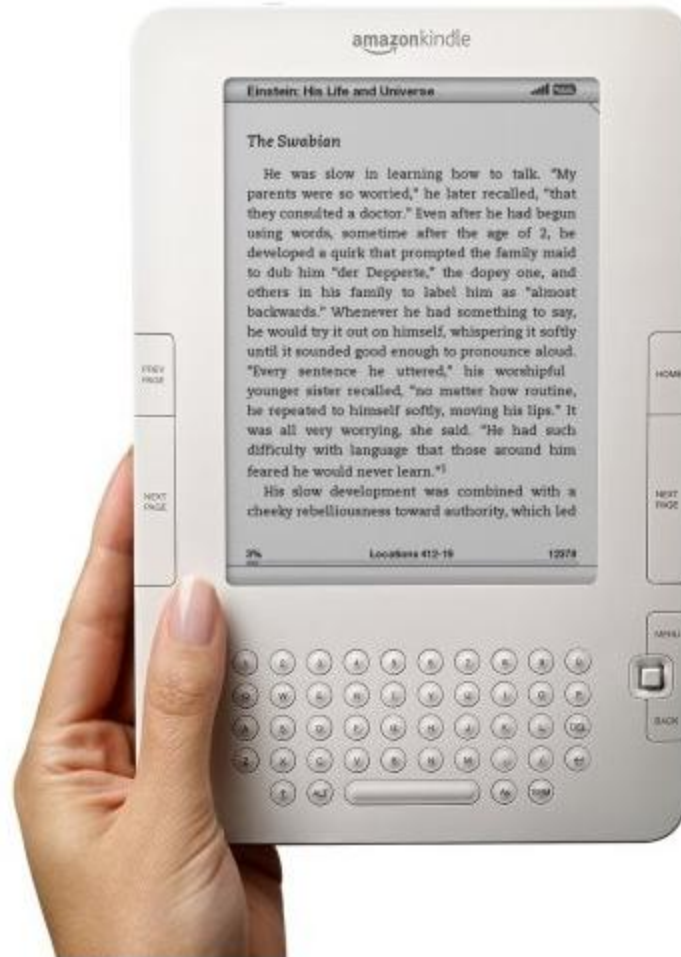
Digital Rights Management (DRM)

- Access control and use technologies, see [i](#)
- ePub format (includes DRM, see [i](#)) supported by major e-book devices
- Amazon Kindle uses proprietary AZW format (DRM)
- Apple iPad expected to use FairPlay (DRM) and/or Adobe Content Server, see [i](#)
- PDF can be “encapsulated” with DRM (for example, FileOpen, see [i](#))

Principal Competitors in 2010

- Amazon Kindles
- Barnes & Noble Nook
- Sony Readers
- Apple iPads

Amazon Kindle 2



Amazon Kindle DX



Amazon Kindles

Kindle
(Global Wireless)



Kindle DX
(Global Wireless)



Display	6" diagonal E Ink®	9.7" diagonal E Ink®
Size	8" x 5.3" x 0.36"	10.4" x 7.2" x 0.38"
Storage	1,500 books	3,500 books
Books in Under 60 Seconds	✓	✓
3G Wireless	✓	✓
Wireless Coverage	Global	Global
Native PDF Support	✓	✓
Text-to-Speech	✓	✓
Whispersync	✓	✓
Rotating Display	Manual Rotation	Auto-Rotation
Price	\$259.00	\$489.00

Amazon Kindles (cont.)

- E-Ink display technology (BW only)
- Linux kernel, v. 2.6.10
- Keyboard
- Variable font sizes
- Weight: 10.2 and 18.9 oz
- Resolution:
 - 600 x 800 pixels at 167 ppi; 16 level gray scale
 - 1200 x 824 pixels at 150 ppi; 16 level gray scale

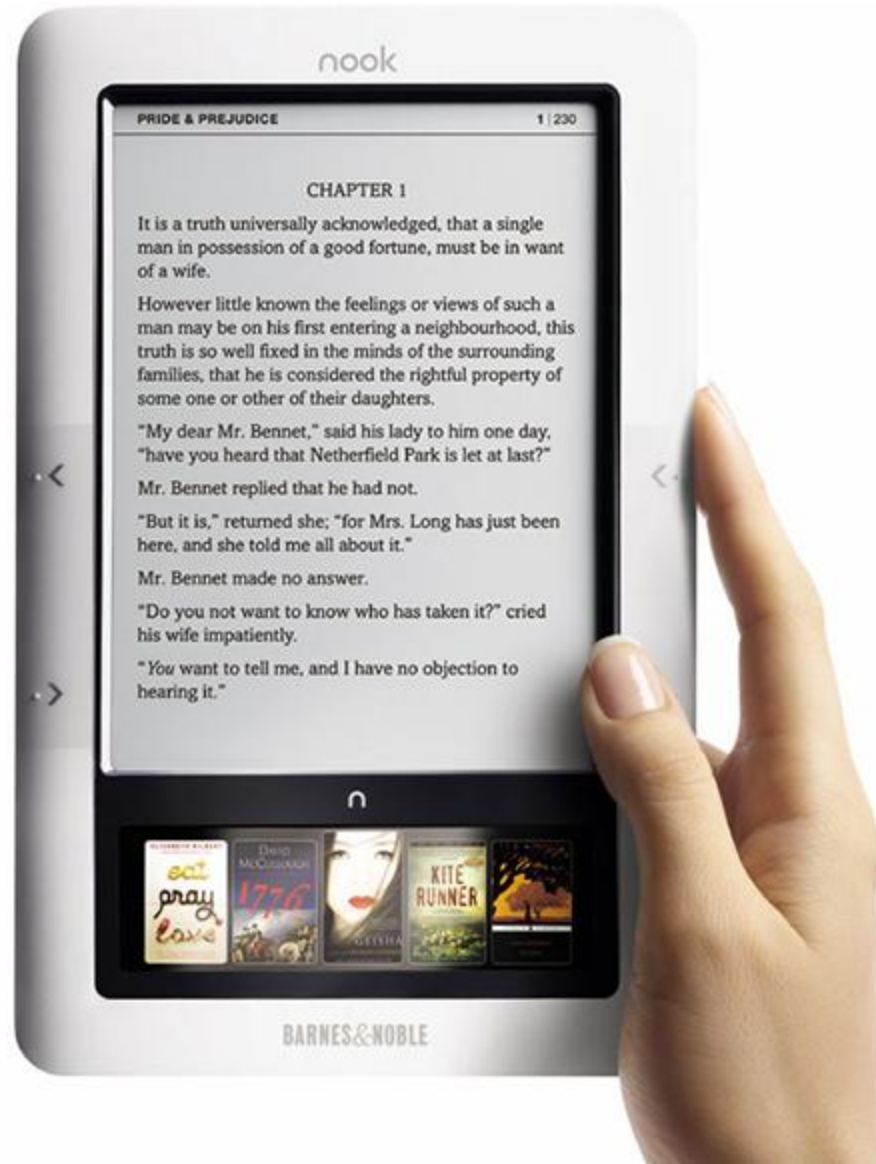
Amazon Kindles (cont.)

- International 3G wireless
- 480,000 titles
- Purchase books in U.S. and ~ 100 countries
- No book sharing; 6 readers on same account
- Books can be downloaded multiple times

Amazon Kindles (cont.)

- Most books \$10 (Macmillan \$15 ⓘ)
- Free sample chapters
- 1.8 million free out-of-copyright titles ⓘ
- Free Kindle software available for PC, iPhone, BlackBerry & Macintosh
- For more information... ⓘ

Barnes & Noble Nook





Barnes & Noble Nook

- E-Ink display technology (BW only)
- Color touchscreen or virtual keyboard
- Google Android OS
- Variable font sizes
- Weight: 12.1 oz
- Size: 8" x 4.9 x 0.5"
- Store 1,500 books
- File Formats: EPUB (DRM), PDB, PDF, JPG, MP3, others
- Resolution: 600 x 800 pixels at 200? ppi; 16 level gray scale

Barnes & Noble Nook (cont.)

- 3G wireless (U.S.)
- Purchase books in U.S. only
- 1,000,000 titles
- Some e-books can be loaned to friends (14 days)
- Able to read entire e-books for free at local Barnes & Noble stores
- Books can be downloaded multiple times

Barnes & Noble Nook (cont.)

- Most books seem to be priced at \$10
- Sample any e-book free
- Many free out-of-copyright titles available
- Free Nook software available for PC, iPhone, & Macintosh. Blackberry in 2010
- For more information see... 
- For comparison of Nook and Kindle 2 see... 
- B&N's bookstore and e-reading software for the iPad to be made available

Sony Readers



READER Touch Edition™

A library of books at your fingertips.

\$ 299.99



READER Daily Edition™ **NEW**

Download your books and periodicals wirelessly.

\$ 399.99



READER Pocket Edition™

Hundreds of books wherever you go.

\$ 199.99

Sony Readers

- E-Ink display technology (BW only)
- Touchscreen (not Pocket Edition)
- MontaVista Linux
- 3-6 font sizes
- Weight: 7.8, 10.1 and 12.3 oz
- Size: 6 to 8" x 4 to 5" x 0.4 to 0.6"
- Storage: 350 to 1000+ (?)
- Resolution: 166 or 299 ppi; 8 or 16 level gray scale (depending on model)

Sony Readers (cont.)

- 3G wireless (U.S. & Canada only)
- 1,000,000 titles (including Google Books)
- No book sharing; 5 readers on same account
- Access to public libraries for checkout and downloading books

Sony Readers (cont.)

- Most books seem to be priced at about \$10
- Many free titles available
- Free Reader software available for PC and Mac; see [!\[\]\(6841ca9b0e023296428e7c9e683b9367_img.jpg\)](#)
- To purchase Sony's e-books, see [!\[\]\(e258e347e7683f87061f627f84598eb5_img.jpg\)](#)
- For more information from Sony, see [!\[\]\(1233990ad3f0b7475c568d7bf16af31f_img.jpg\)](#)

Apple iPad



E-book reader or netbook or laptop or...?

Select your iPad.

Wi-Fi

16GB¹

Ships: Delivers on
April 3rd

Free Shipping

\$499.00

Pre-order

32GB¹

Ships: Delivers on
April 3rd

Free Shipping

\$599.00

Pre-order

64GB¹

Ships: Delivers on
April 3rd

Free Shipping

\$699.00

Pre-order

Wi-Fi + 3G (3G data plan sold separately.)

16GB¹

Ships: Late April

Free Shipping

\$629.00

Pre-order

32GB¹

Ships: Late April

Free Shipping

\$729.00

Pre-order

64GB¹

Ships: Late April

Free Shipping

\$829.00

Pre-order

Wi-Fi models April 3, 2010
Wi-Fi + 3G models late April



Apple iPad Characteristics

- LED – backlit glossy; BW and color
- Based on iPhone OS, which is based on OS X
- Touchscreen & virtual keyboard
- Variable font sizes, full-screen zoom
- Weight: 1.5 to 1.6 lbs
- Size: 9.56" x 7.47" x 0.5"
- Resolution: 768x 1024pixels at 132 ppi; 16 level gray scale
- Communication: Wi-Fi and 3G cellular (+ \$130 + \$29.99/month)

Apple iPad (cont.)

- Features:
 - E-book reader
 - Music (iPod/iTunes)
 - E-mail
 - Surf the Web (Safari)
 - Calendar, Contacts & Notes
 - iWork (word-processor, spread sheet, presentations)
 - Video (including movies)
 - Photos
 - Maps & GPS (WiFi models – WiFi positioning; 3G models – true GPS)

Apple iPad (cont.)

- Applications:
 - Runs (most) of 150,000 apps for iPhone & iPad Touch
 - 5,000 to 10,000 new productivity apps by end 2010
- Publishers: Penguin Harper Collins, Macmillan, Hachete Book Group & Simon & Schuster
- Free iBooks app available for iPad
- Amazon e-books to be available for the iPad via a Kindle app for the iPad. See announcements from *PCWorld*  and Gizmodo 

Numerous Devices for Amazon's E-books (10 Apr 2010) see

amazon.com
Prime

Hello, **Lorrin R. Garson**. We have [recommendations](#) for you. ([Not Lorrin?](#)) Kindle: The #1

[Lorrin's Amazon.com](#) | [Today's Deals](#) | [Gifts & Wish Lists](#) | [Gift Cards](#)

[Shop All Departments](#)

Search Categories

Cart

[Kindle Store](#) | [Buy A Kindle](#) | [Kindle Books](#) | [Newspapers](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Magazines](#) | [Accessories](#) | [Discussions](#) | [Manage Your Kindle](#)

Free Kindle Reading Apps

Read Anywhere with Our Free Reading Apps



Choose from our family of **FREE** apps →






- iPhone
- Windows PC
- Mac
- BlackBerry
- iPad

More Reading Apps Coming Soon

Enjoy free 3G wireless and the best reading experience available with Kindle

► [Buy a Kindle](#)—Amazon's #1 bestseller

Apple iPad (cont.)

- For more information, see:
 - Apple 
 - Gizmodo 
 - Review from *PC World* 
 - Review from *The Baltimore Sun* 
 - Article from *The New York Times* 
 - Apple's Vision of the Future, *Time*, February 8, 2010, pp. 34-35.
- Reviews are mixed: See *SmartComputing*, April 2010, p. 40. *BusinessWeek*, April 12, 2010, pp. 18-20.
- Sales expected 3-6 million units (\$2-3 billion revenue; 300,000 sold first day!)

Some More Recent Technologies

- enTourage eDGe reader
- Mirasol display technology



\$499; shipping expected April 5th

enTourage eDGe

- E-book reader and Netbook combination
- E-book reader
 - 9.7" e-reader screen (e-ink)
 - ePub and PDF files
- Netbook
 - Google Android OS
 - Color 10.1" screen
 - Virtual keyboard
 - E-mail, contacts list, calculator, etc.
- For more information, see [i](#)
- Reviews? See [i](#) and [i](#) – mostly negative

Mirasol Display Technology

initial e-reader
sized demo
showing actual
color and video
refresh rate on a
mirasol® display.





Announcing a new
FUTURE
for e-reader displays

Beautiful color, fast-paced video, visibility in direct sunlight and longer battery lives – on their own, each is an attractive quality for mobile devices. But brought together, it is unlike anything available today – an exciting marriage that promises rich, multi-media experiences for users.

 Discover the benefits of mirasol® displays

Mirasol Display Technology

- From Qualcomm MEMS Technologies, Inc.
- Based on IMOD (**I**nterferometric **MOD**ulation) reflective technology. (Think butterflies)
- Low power consumption
- Highly reflective (usable in direct sunlight)
- For a video demonstration (with sound) see 
- How does it work? See 

E-Readers: Negatives

- Lack file compatibility
- DRM restrictions
- Readers are relatively expensive \$200-\$1000
- Lack color display (except iPad & Fujitsu FLEPIa)
- Resolution inadequate for many (most) graphics. Little or no graphic manipulation
- Only top-down, linear reading/browsing
- Unsuitable many for technical publications
- Relatively fast obsolescence (2-3 years)
- 2-6 readers will dominate within several years

E-Readers: Positives

- Relatively inexpensive books (average ~\$10, many free)
- Purchase of e-books easy and rapid
- 100's of thousands of books available
- Portable – take a library with you
- Excellent readability
- Very good battery capacity
- Reasonable search function
- Ready access to dictionary

Factors in Selecting an E-Book Reader

- Meeting your expectations
- Availability of your kind of books
- Stability of the reader's manufacturer
- Price of reader and books
- Functionality of the reader
 - Display (readability and size)
 - Weight
 - Ergonomics
 - Storage capacity
 - Search functions
- Characteristics of the DRM used

The End

Thank you!